

**FOSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

Captain Isaac Paine School  
160 Foster Center Road  
Foster, RI 02825

Tuesday, November 24, 2015  
Open Session – 7:15 PM

1. **Convene Meeting** – the meeting of the Foster School Committee (FSC) was called to order on November 24, 2015 at 7:15 PM by Chair, Kathleen Swanson.
  - a. *Roll Call* – all members were present: Chair, Kathleen Swanson, vice-Chair, Shelley Pezza, member, Ron Cervasio, Superintendent, Michael Barnes and FSC secretary, Helena McCullough.
  - b. *Pledge of Allegiance* – was recited by all in attendance.
2. **Public Comment** – there was no comment.
3. **Building Use Requests** – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC approved the Building Use Request as presented. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
4. **Approval of Minutes** – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC approved the Executive and Open session minutes for October 27, 2015. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
5. **Approval of Warrants** – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC approved the Warrant #10 for \$170,953.26. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
  - a. *Business Manager's Report* – Mr. Petrarca supplied his report for the FSC with updated numbers for 2015. There has been a loss of dollars with the lunch program but that program is now breaking even.
6. **New Business (for discussion/action)**
  - a. *PARCC* – Discussion – Dr. Barnes supplies the FSC with the PARCC assessment for CIPS from last year. Not the best news Foster but the scores were above the State average for Math and a hair below the state average for ELA. Discussion.
  - b. *Personnel – Resignation – P/T Instructional Technology Coach* – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC accepted the resignation as presented. The FSC is not looking to replace this position at this time. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
  - c. *Legal Services* – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC voted to appoint Mr. Jon Anderson of Locke Lord as Foster School Department's legal advisor. Discussion. After discussion, Ms. Pezza and Mr. Cervasio both withdrew their motion. On a motion by Mr. Cervasio and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC voted to have an Executive Session on December 5, 2015 after the Foster Gloucester Regional School Committee meeting for the potential of hiring, fees, and services and to possibly appoint legal representation. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

d. **Building Maintenance**

- 1) *Report* – Mr. Obiurka reported that Mr. Cervasio had requested a look at adding a second floor in the existing storage area. The Building Committee will discuss brick replacement due to ice and water infiltration from the winter before.
- 2) *Shared Services* – on a motion by Mrs. Swanson and seconded by Ms. Pezza, the FSC voted to accept the cost-share for facilities position at the rate they are currently sharing. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
- 3) *Building Use Custodial Charge / Hours* – on a motion by Mr. Cervasio and seconded by Ms. Pezza, the FSC voted that Building Use outside the custodial hours and additional services fee will be incurred by the organization using the building. Discussion – Building Use Request form needs to be modified / updated and possibly having a check list for users of the building of items that will be the user's responsibility. Ms. Pezza withdrew her motion and the motion failed.
- 4) *Large Stock Room Revamp* – Discussion – Mr. Cervasio would like to see if the existing storage room could be modified to include a second floor. Mr. Obiurka is looking into his request. There would need to be an engineered evaluation for this use. Also, an assessment of the stage in the cafeteria will be done.

7. **Communication/Reports**

- a. *Communication* – Mrs. Swanson shared with the FSC she had received a letter but no action could be taken and it will be a future agenda item. Also a future agenda item is the Swamp Meadow request to reconsider fees imposed on them for the use of the school.
- b. *Principal's Report* – Mrs. Danusis had supplied the FSC with her report.
- c. *Superintendent's Report* – Dr. Barnes reported that there had been a Safety Meeting. Areas discussed were the future vestibule front entrance, safety glass, and glass in the classroom doors, assessed different facilities and discussed different law enforcement scenarios. Upgrading the current phone system was also part of the assessment and multiple ways of communicating.  
There has also been discussion among administrators about the evaluation system, student assessment and work on a K to 12 system. Next meeting is for looking at coordinating curriculum and articulation with what's happening from 5<sup>th</sup> grade to 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

8. On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC **voted to go into Executive Session for discussion and/or action regarding those items of business referred to in R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation – Foster Teachers Association / MOA Educational Support Personnel (3) School Safety.** Motion passed. Vote – 3-0-0.

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC voted to reconvene Open Session. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

Mrs. Swanson reported that Collective Bargaining and Litigation Foster Teachers' Association / MOA Educational Support Personnel and School Safety were discussed and one vote in the affirmative was taken for School Safety.

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio the FSC voted to "Seal" the minutes of Executive Session. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

**9. Future Agenda Items**

- a. Communications – Montecalvo letter and Swamp Meadow Community Theatre request.
- b. School Safety App – Red Light / Green Light

**10. Adjournment** – on a motion by Mrs. Swanson and seconded by Ms. Pezza, the FSC voted to adjourn at 9:25 PM. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Helena McCullough  
Secretary Foster School Committee